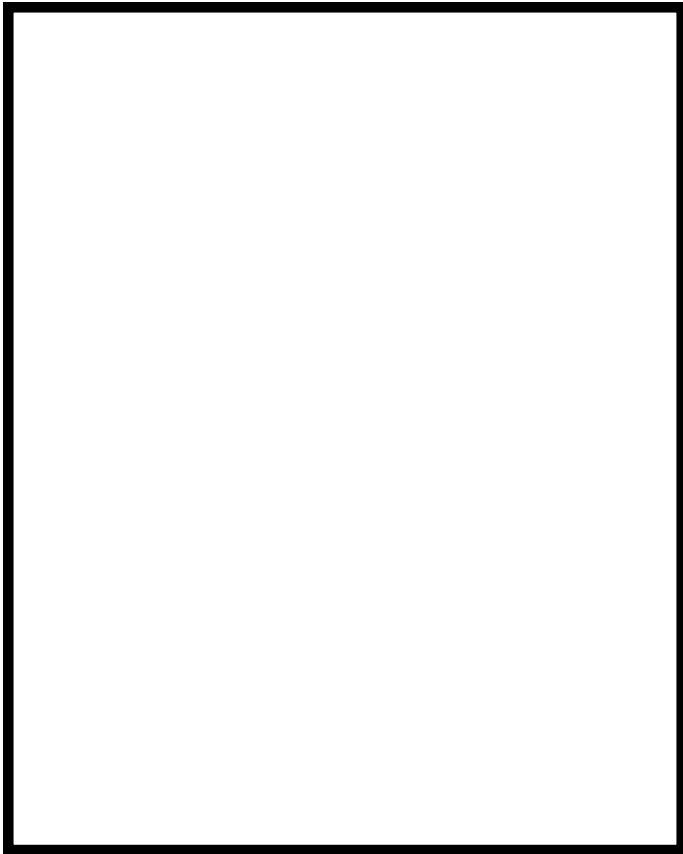
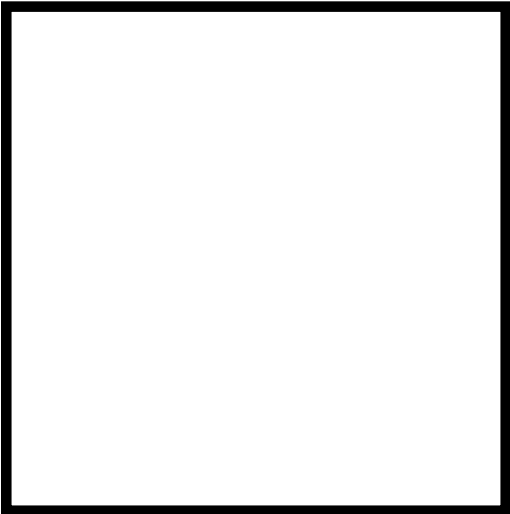


# Contact

Magazine for and about members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing  
Vol. 16, No. 10

November 1998



**55TH APS SPELLS EXCELLENCE**

# Commanders'

by Col. Gerald A. Black  
Commander, 349th Air Mobility Wing

## CORNER

In this month's column, I'd like to address my remarks to the 349th Air Mobility Wing recruiters. Now before you skip to the next article, read a little further.

By recruiters, I mean all of you. That's right, every man and woman in the 349th. Whether you know it or not, you, as unit members, are the best recruiters in the wing. Why do I say that? Because you are here. The fact that you continue to participate proves that you value your membership in the wing, and the Air Force Reserve. And that makes you the most valuable advocates we have.

Right now, thanks to the hard work of our "official" recruiters, the 349th is fully manned. But numbers can be deceiving. Certain critical skill areas such as fuel cell, aerial port, aerospace ground equipment, and aeromedical evacuation are historically undermanned. And the Reserve always needs more nurses and medical technicians. The prior service pool is drying up as the active duty continues to shrink. The economy is booming, attracting large numbers of young people into high-paying civilian jobs. These factors make it tough to attract enough of the talented people we need to keep this wing going strong.

Our recruiting office staff has been trained to reach large numbers of people, often going in "cold" to schools and job fairs, to "market" the Air Force Reserve in a professional manner. That's their job, not yours. What I would like

each of you to do is simply talk about the Reserve to folks you already know, people you would like to have in the wing. We have more than 4,000 folks in the 349th; that's a huge pool of friends, acquaintances and co-workers. That's a lot of potential recruits.

You already know all the benefits to include job training in one of 196 different Air Force specialty codes, often using state-of-the-art technology; 98 percent of these jobs translate directly into civilian occupations.

There is also the G.I. Bill, two-for-one UTA pay, travel, and retirement. I'm sure many of you will also mention the honor of serving your country, or the sheer gratification of lending a helping hand to needy people around the world.

Whatever motivates you to keep wearing the uniform, spread the message around. Keeping this unit manned and ready is a never-ending process. The 349th is your wing. It's up to all of us to keep it strong and viable.

The door is always open for those who enjoy the special challenge of recruiting. Any AFSC can apply. Lots of nice benefits. Terrific job satisfaction. Give it some thought. ✈



## Sherrard commands Air Force Reserve

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** - The Senate confirmed Maj. Gen. James E. Sherrard III as chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command. The former commander of 22nd Air Force at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., was nominated for the positions by the president in April.

He replaces Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh as chief of Air Force Reserve, a member of the Air Staff and principal adviser to the Air Force chief of staff on Reserve matters.

McIntosh left the dual-hat Pentagon post in June to become the first reserve assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Maj. Gen. David R. Smith, AFRC vice commander, served as commander of the Reserve from June until Sherrard's confirmation.

"I am truly honored and excited to be named chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command," Sherrard said. "It is with great pride that I accept command of the outstanding men and women of AFRC, who are performing in a superb manner supporting our Air Force on a worldwide basis.

"I am looking forward to visiting with all of the talented

and dedicated members of our service and to see, firsthand, how they perform their assigned duties. By doing so, I will be able to better understand their capabilities, needs and concerns, which are critical to our maintaining a strong, combat-ready force."

Prior to becoming 22nd Air Force commander in January, Sherrard had tours as the Air Force Reserve vice commander at Robins AFB, overseeing the day-to-day operation of the command's unit program. He was at Robins AFB from July 1993 to October 1994 and from January 1995 to January 1998, serving briefly as 22nd Air Force commander from October 1994 to January 1995. ✈ (AFRC News Service)



## CONTACT

349th Air Mobility Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
520 Waldron Street  
Travis AFB, CA 94535-2171  
Vol. 16, No. 10 November 1998

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of "CONTACT" are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 349th AMW Public Affairs Office, Travis AFB, Calif. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

Office hours: Monday through Friday and UTAs,  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Office Phone: (707) 424-3936  
Fax: (707) 424-1672

**Commander:**

Col. Gerald A. Black

**Chief, Public Affairs:**

Capt. Tania L. Daniels

**Deputy Chief:**

Mr. Ronald C. Lake

**Public Affairs Assistant:**

Staff Sgt. Patti Holloway

**Public Affairs Officer:**

Maj. (Sel) Anne F. Macdonald

**Public Affairs NCOIC:**

Senior Master Sgt. Ronald C. Lake

**CONTACT Staff Writers:**

Technical Sgt. Marvin Meek

Staff Sgt. Shayne Sewell

Staff Sgt. Steven O. Ontiveros

Senior Airman Robin M. Jackson

**Editor:**

Staff Sgt. Shayne Sewell

[WWW.TRAVIS.AF.MIL/PAGES/349PA](http://WWW.TRAVIS.AF.MIL/PAGES/349PA)

Missing your copy of the CONTACT magazine? We only mail out to the address on file with Personnel Systems. They get your address from your change of address forms. Check your orderly room or administration section to make sure you have the correct address on file.

**Cover photos:**

(top left) Technical Sgt. Randi Russell and Master Sgt. Katie Whitlock walk steadily, armed with their M-16s. (top right) Master Sgt. Fred Coloma observes the exercise.

(Bottom left and right) Members from the 55th APS depart Travis AFB en route to Fairchild AFB, Wash.

(PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. FRANKLIN A. ALDRIDGE)

## LT. COL. SELECTEES



Deborah L. Aspling, 349<sup>th</sup> AES  
Steven D. Cornell, 301<sup>st</sup> AS  
Jeffery R. Glass, 70<sup>th</sup> ARS  
Tim W. Grennan, 349<sup>th</sup> MDS  
Jeanne M. Haddad, 349<sup>th</sup> OSF  
Gerard J. Hatheway, 349<sup>th</sup> CH  
Gregory D. Holm, 70<sup>th</sup> ARS  
Kerry E. Keithcart, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Edward D. Kintzing, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
John A. Korach, 349<sup>th</sup> CRS  
Jeffrey G. Light, 349<sup>th</sup> MDS  
Daniel S. McLucas, 349<sup>th</sup> OSF  
John R. Nelson, 349<sup>th</sup> ALCF  
Kendall W. Noble, 349<sup>th</sup> AGS  
Alice D. Tyron, 349<sup>th</sup> CH  
Abigail L. Uptegraff, 349<sup>th</sup> EMS  
Karen S. Webb, 349<sup>th</sup> AES

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



# A nurse's job never ends

By Staff Sgt. Shayne Sewell

Photos by Maj. Fawn L. McCloud

Imagine being away from home for two months, living in 126-degree heat, and while you're packing to go home, you hear the horrible news of terrorist bombings and mass casualties. As an aeroevacuation nurse with burn and intensive care nursing experience, this situation cannot be ignored.

At approximately 1:30 p.m. Aug. 7, Maj. Fawn L. McCloud, officer in charge of the inpatient ward, 4404<sup>th</sup> Medical Group at Prince Sultan Air Base, was given word of the U.S. embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.

McCloud is a nurse assigned to the 349<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Staging Squadron here. She and Capt. Amy Drake, an Oklahoma Air Guard nurse, stopped packing their bags to go back home to the states, and instead packed to go to Africa to help with the embassy bombings. They volunteered to extend their tour overseas and within 20 hours they were on a C-130 loaded with medical supplies, food and water with 25 other medical, security, and support personnel.

Donned with flack jackets and helmets they departed the aircraft, going from the heat of Prince Sultan to Kenya's winter of 45 degrees. They were the first military medical team to arrive at the U.S. Aid Building in Nairobi; now the new embassy.

The medical team was divided into smaller teams consisting of one doctor, one nurse, and one medical technician. They were assigned to different hospitals to evaluate and prepare embassy personnel and Foreign Service nationals for aeroevacuation to Ramstein Air Base, Germany. "We looked for anything that would prevent someone from being transported, such as ear trauma or an unstable or critical condition. We cannot air evacuate those type of patients," said McCloud.

"We were impressed with the triage and care given by the Kenyan medical system, considering there were over 5,000 injuries and 300 casualties," said McCloud. "We evacuated 11 American and Kenyan citizens with critical injuries, such as,

**McCloud tends to a patient boarded onto a C-141 enroute to Ramstein AB, Germany.**

burns, traumatic amputations, and lacerations, within the first 24 hours of arriving in Nairobi," said McCloud. "A second mission was put together less than 24 hours later with another 17 patients, including Kenyan nationals. We didn't sleep for the first two days," she said.

By the fourth day, the need for critical incident debriefings was identified, McCloud said. After the initial evacuations were completed, Nairobi Ambassador Bushnell mandated that the military medical team give the briefing to over 1,000 embassy employees. McCloud said these briefings were emotionally charged sessions to help the bombing victims relive the experience in order to begin their emotional healing process.

After 12 days in Nairobi, the military medical team evacuated 28 patients and gave briefings to over 1,000 bombing victims. With their work done, they boarded the C-130 aircraft and headed back to Prince Sultan Air Base to finish packing, again, for their trip home. ✈

**The rubble left over from the Nairobi, Kenya, embassy explosion Aug. 7.**



# Touchdown for Air Force Reserve

By Senior Master Sgt. Ronald C. Lake

The 349<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing's Elite Honor Guard commemorated the Air Force Reserve's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by presenting the colors during pregame ceremonies at the opening game for the San Francisco 49ers, at 3COM Park in San Francisco, Sept. 6.

Country-western recording star Leann Rimes sang the National Anthem. More than 64,500 fans also were witness to a fly-over by a Travis-based C-5 "Galaxy," flown by a 312<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron aircrew, as part of the 49ers' tribute to the Reserve's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

"It was a terrific experience that I won't forget anytime soon," said Tech. Sgt. James R. Coleman III. "To be the ambassadors for the Air Force Reserve in commemorating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is something I will take pride in sharing with my grandchildren someday."

"I've performed at many events with the Honor Guard, but this is one that will certainly be hard to top," said Technical Sgt. Boyde W.C. Crawford. "I loved it!"

Staff Sgt. Ann-Marie Scott said, "In front of these tens of thousands of spectators, all at once I realized just what a significant role the Air Force Reserve plays in today's world. Not merely acknowledged, but relied upon. We have arrived!"

Also representing the Travis Team was Staff Sgt. Jimmy Freeman, of the 60<sup>th</sup> AMW's Elite Honor Guard. "I had a great time working with the Reserve Honor Guard and I was very impressed with how well they performed," Freeman said. "They did not miss a step and that's no easy task when you're not doing this every day."

"I was extremely honored to represent the 349<sup>th</sup> and the Air Force Reserve today," said Technical Sgt. Luis Caragan. "I felt a great sense of pride and accomplishment while down on the field. It was awesome."

The 349<sup>th</sup> Honor Guard performs at a variety of military, civic and community functions throughout the year. Among the kinds of functions they can be called upon to support are

retirements, changes of command, military balls, parades, and national patriotic holidays.

The 349<sup>th</sup> Elite Honor Guard is looking for wing members, technical sergeants and below, to join the group. Anyone interested should contact Master Sgt. Paul McCullough, at (707) 424-3406. Those interested should not be discouraged if they have no experience.

"We can teach you everything you need to know," McCullough said. "All we ask is that you make a commitment and have the desire to represent the wing with dignity and professionalism." ✈



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ronald C. Lake

*(From left to right) San Francisco 49ers mascot, "Huddles," welcomes the 349th Air Mobility Wing Honor Guard (from left); Tech. Sgt. Luis M. Caragan, Jr., Master Sgt. Robin Mueller, Technical Sgt. Boyde W.C. Crawford, Staff Sgt. Jimmy R. Freeman (60th AMW), and Tech. Sgt. James R. Coleman, III., to 3COM Park.*

## MAINTENANCE SENIOR NCO, NCO AND AIRMAN OF THE YEAR

The following individuals have been selected as the Maintenance winners for the year 1998:

**Master Sgt. Dale G. Sandusky, 349<sup>th</sup> EMS, Senior NCO of the Year**

**Technical Sgt. Kenneth W. Krause, 349<sup>th</sup> LSS, NCO of the Year**

**Staff Sgt. Mark A. Frantz, 749<sup>th</sup> AGS, Airman of the Year**

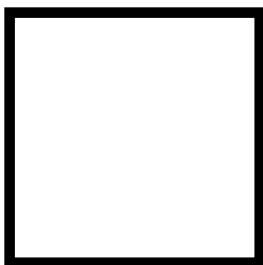
# Aerial Port warriors battle for excellence

Story by Staff Sgt. Ubbo M. Coty

Photos by Staff Sgt. Franklin A. Aldridge

55th APS Unit Public Affairs Representatives

**Technical  
Sgt.  
Bernadette  
Buensuceso,  
special  
handling  
processor,  
55th APS**



Thirty-three members of the 55th Aerial Port Squadron at Travis AFB deployed to Fairchild AFB, Wash., in a joint effort to test the new ORI 2000 concept on Sept. 15. They participated in the ORI with and supported the 141st Air Refueling Wing, a Washington Air National Guard KC-135 unit based at Fairchild AFB. The 55th APS ORI team members deployed with weapons, as in a real world deployment and were evaluated in four areas: initial response, employment, mission support and ability to survive and operate (ATSO).

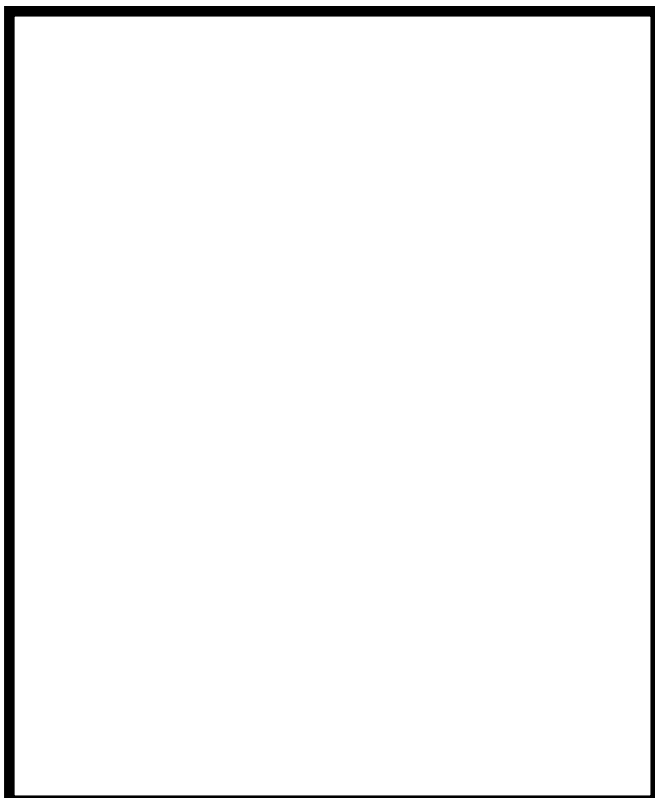
During the six-day deployment, the 55th APS was also evaluated in response to different scenarios that were posed by the IG Team. The 55th ORI team returned home to Travis on Sept. 21st and was greeted by the remaining ORI team members who supported their mission from Travis. Technical Sgt. Randi Russell stated that the ATSO training they had received and the steady preparation for the ORI were paramount to their success. Staff Sgt. Marvin Jenkins added, "The valuable knowledge that we received from the IG team will be a tremendous asset for us to pass along to our sister squadrons."

The six-day AMC/IG ORI evaluation rating was an overall excellent. In addition to the excellent rating, Staff Sgt. Jocelyn Davidson, Staff Sgt. Frank Aldridge and Staff Sgt. Earl Billups were named outstanding performers by the IG Team.

Congratulations to the 55th APS for a job well done!



**Staff Sgt. Joy G. Padayhag, cargo processor, 55<sup>th</sup> APS, simulates being shot during an ORI exercise.**



**Staff Sgt. Leland D. Alejandro, passenger processor, 55<sup>th</sup> APS**



# Acting Secretary sets sights on retention, future

by F. Whitten Peters  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — As your Acting Secretary, I am acutely aware of the strains that life in today's Air Force puts on you and your family. In recent months, I've visited many stateside and overseas bases to assess the readiness of our forces, and I've seen firsthand the effects of our high operations tempo.

My primary objective on these trips was to listen to your concerns; at each stop, I engaged in frank question-answer sessions with enlisted folks and officers alike. After each visit, I discussed your concerns with senior Air Force leaders to find solutions. Now, I want to share my impressions with you and discuss the things we're doing to improve life in the Air Force.

What stands out most is the remarkable reservoir of energy, teamwork, talent and positive attitude I see in you and your loved ones. Despite the exhaustion of deployments and long hours of work at home, you have set aside personal ambitions and opportunities for greater financial rewards, faced separation from your family and placed yourself in harm's way. I am extremely proud of what you're doing for America, especially at this time when you must perform heroically with aging equipment and insufficient supplies.

It's also clear to me that many of you are deployed too often. Or you are overworked when at your home base because you're doing both your job and the jobs of those deployed. Our increased operations tempo — the result of reducing forces by 33 percent while increasing deployments fourfold — has put heavy strains on you and your family. As Chief of Staff General Mike Ryan and I said in August, you've done everything we've asked — and more — but we've been asking too much. This needs to stop, and it will, with our reorganization into an Expeditionary Aerospace Force, or EAF, over the next 12 months.

The EAF will significantly reduce the strains of OPTEMPO by spreading the load of deployments across the Total Force and by increasing the number of airmen assigned to specialties that frequently deploy. This organizational reform will provide you predictability and stability and, at the same time, will provide our warfighting commanders in chief more flexible, tailored and better-trained forces.

You'll begin to see the benefits of the EAF in early 2000, when our first Aerospace Expeditionary Forces are established and operating. At that point, OPTEMPO demands on our people will drop dramatically. And the situation will improve even more over the next several years as we add 5,000 people to high-deployment career fields like security forces, civil engineering and communications. The EAF will help us manage your OPTEMPO, but we know your family also needs help. We've worked hard to provide a wide array of information and services to help families deal with the strains of high OPTEMPO. Our family support centers seem to be working well but many families are not aware of the services available.

We must do a better job spreading the word on how to get help. I've discussed this issue with commanders, senior enlisted advisors, chaplains and first sergeants, and I believe you'll see more emphasis on getting information to your family.

While OPTEMPO is definitely on your mind, it's only the tip of the iceberg. I've also heard about how the lack of spare parts is driving our maintainers to 12-hour days as the norm.

This situation is unacceptable and must be changed. To keep parts available, we've added about \$1 billion to spares and depot repair accounts since 1997, and we're working hard to improve

depot productivity. We've put spares and repairs high on the list of items for which we seek additional funding in fiscal years 1999 and 2000. It takes 18 to 24 months to turn money into spares, so our sustained emphasis on spares and depot maintenance funding should start to pay off soon.

What concerns me most — and what I am tracking most closely — is retention. Our retention rates are alarmingly low, and the reason seems clear. Many of you have told me that "erosion of benefits" is causing you to leave the Air Force. Whatever the reason, it's clear that our success depends on being able to retain good people to operate and support our high-tech machines. We must make Air Force life more appealing than it currently is.

Think about this: between now and 2001, 90% of our enlisted people — more than 265,000 airmen — will face a re-enlistment decision. If you're one of them, or if you're an officer about to make a career decision, please consider the following facts about benefits: First, we know military pay has lagged behind civilian pay. But change is in the air. The President, Secretary of Defense, and Congress have committed to substantial pay increases over the next few years. Second, we're working the retirement issue. General Ryan, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and I are pushing for retirement reform to ensure every military retiree will receive adequate and equitable benefits. Congress has already begun to debate a reversal of the 1986 "Redux" retirement cuts. Third, we're working to improve TRICARE. I know the new system has had a rocky start, but I believe it's getting better as it matures. To make sure this is the case, I've asked the Inspector General to conduct an independent survey of TRICARE users in areas where TRICARE has been established for several years. I should have the results of this survey by early next year and will take prompt action if needed.

My point is, **we don't want to lose you.** If you are considering separating, please get all the facts (pay, benefits, job challenges and responsibility, future initiatives) and discuss your options with your families and other members of our Air Force team — co-workers, supervisors and commanders. I use the word "team" for a good reason. I worked in the private sector for more than 25 years, and I guarantee you will not find in most private-sector jobs the teamwork, high quality co-workers, trust and camaraderie you enjoy in your unit.

You owe it to yourself to "look before you leap." Ask yourself these questions as you look: Do I enjoy the people I work with? Do I enjoy what I'm doing? Do I feel good about serving my country?

Our goal is to help you answer those questions so you, your family, our Air Force and America all win. If you can't answer "yes," tell us why. I know we won't be able to resolve all your concerns, but we'll do our best to focus resources where they have the greatest positive impact on our people and on national security.

We have the best people in the world, and thanks to you, our Air Force remains ready to perform its critical mission. But for too long, you've been forced to choose between your own needs — and those of your family — and the needs of our Air Force. General Ryan, Chief Benken and I will do all we can to ensure we develop and implement policies that help rather than hinder you in accomplishing the missions you perform so well.

I am honored to serve as your Acting Secretary. As I look to the future, I know it will be a team effort that will sustain our success. I'm counting on leaders at all levels to help our people overcome the significant challenges we face, but I'll need the help of the entire Air Force team. I hope I can count on you!



**By Paul Stone**  
**American Forces Press Service**

**WASHINGTON** — In a briefing room deep in the Pentagon earlier this year, Air Force Lt. Col. Buzz Walsh and Maj. Brad Ashley presented a series of briefings to top DoD leaders that raised more than just a few eyebrows.

Selected leaders were shown how it was possible to obtain their individual social security numbers, unlisted home phone numbers, and a host of other personal information about themselves and their families — simply by cruising the Internet.

Walsh and Ashley, members of the Pentagon's Joint Staff, were not playing a joke on the leaders. Nor were they trying to be clever. Rather they were dramatically, and effectively demonstrating the ease of accessing and gathering personal and military data on the information highway — information which, in the wrong hands, could translate into a vulnerability.

"You don't need a Ph.D. to do this," Walsh said about the ability to gather the information. "There's no rocket science in this capability. What's amazing is the ease and speed and the minimal know-how needed. The tools (of the Net) are designed for you to do this."

The concern over personal information on key DoD leaders began with a simple inquiry from one particular flag officer who said he was receiving a large number of unsolicited calls at home. In addition to having the general's unlisted number, the callers knew specifically who he was.

Beginning with that one inquiry, the Joint Staff set out to discover just how easy it is to collect data not only on military personnel, but the military in general.

They used personal computers at home, used no privileged information — not even a DoD phone book — and did not use any on-line services that perform investigative searches for a fee.

In less than five minutes on the Net, Ashley starting with only the general's name, was able to extract his complete address, unlisted phone number, and

using a map search engine, build a map and driving directions to his house.

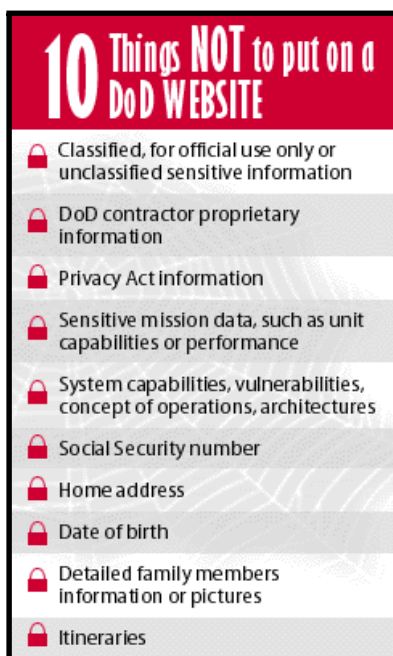
Using the same techniques and Internet search engines, they visited various military and military-related Web sites to see how much and the types of data they could gather. What they discovered was too much about too much, and seemingly too little concern about the free flow of information vs. what the public needs to know.

Taking their quest for easily accessible information one step further, the Joint Staff decided to see how much information could be collected just by typing a military system acronym into an Internet search engine. They soon discovered how easy it was to obtain information on almost any topic, with one Web site hyper-linking them to another on the same topic.

What the Joint Staff was doing when they collected their information is commonly called "data mining" — surfing the Net to collect bits of information on individuals, specific topics or organizations, and then trying to piece together a complete picture. Individuals do it, organizations do it and some companies do it for profit.

So what does all this mean? Is DoD creating individual and institutional security problems? In the rush to make information available to the internal audience, is too much being made available to the public and those who might want to inflict harm?

The Joint Staff doesn't pretend to have all the answers to these questions, but is encouraging users to think about these issues whenever they put information on the Internet; and they believe that, in some cases, DoD is its own worst enemy.



**NOTE: The rules concerning DoD websites are not limited to these 10 things. For more information on how to obtain DoD website policy please refer to page 10.**



# Commuting Distance has changed for better

**T**here are some recent changes to the commuting distance approved by the Wing Commander and spelled out in 349AMW Supplement 1 to DFAS-DER 7010-3.

According to the 349AMW supplement the corporate limits of Travis AFB are Fairfield, Vacaville, Suisun, Cordelia, Elmira and Green Valley.

Members traveling from any of the above locations to Travis AFB are not entitled to per diem or transportation expenses.

Commuting distance from any area outside the corporate limits of Travis AFB is determined as the greatest distance a member could be expected to travel daily, between their Home of Record (HOR) and Permanent Duty Station (PDS), and the nature of duty involved does not prevent an individual from commuting. Attachment 9 of the 349AMW supplement defines the 'Will Commute Area' by listing the major routes of transportation as boundaries, and the cities and zip codes within them.

The use of zip codes is required for data processing purposes. For a list of zip codes please see Attachment 9 of 349AMW Supplement 1 to DFAS-DER 7010-3. The major routes of transportation boundaries and cities are as follows:

**Hwy I 280 and 380, Rts, 1, 101 and 92** (San Francisco to San Mateo bridge and all of San Francisco county, except Farallon Islands, and part of San Mateo county).

**Hwy I 80, 680, 780, 505, 5, Rt 12 and 113** (All

of Yolo county and part of Colusa County).

**Hwy Rt 1, 101, 116, 121, 12, 17, 37 and 29** (parts of Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties).

**Hwy I 80 to Rocklin and Rt 65, 70, 99 and 160** (all of Sacramento county and parts of Placer and Sutter county).

**Hwy I 5, Rt 16, 50, 84, 99 and 160** south and east of Sacramento (all of Sacramento county).

**Hwy I 5, 205, and 580 Stockton area and Rt 4, 14, 26, 88, 99** (San Joaquin county, except, Ripon, Escalon, Vernalis, Farmington, and Tracy south of I 580).

**Hwy I 80, 580, 680, Rt 13, 17, 24, 4, and J4** (all of Contra Costa and Alameda county).

**Hwy I 580, 880, 980, Rt 13, 17, 24, and 238** Oakland to Livermore plus Hwy I 680 to Fremont (Contra Costa and Alameda county).

Individual requests for exceptions to the 'Will Commute Area' will be on a case-by-case basis, based on the surface drive distance from residence to major route of transportation.

Requests shall be made to the unit commander, with approval authority by the group commander. All reservists who are allowed an entitlement will prepare DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher.

If a member is within commuting distance, the member may fill in the appropriate blank and sign in block 19 of AF Form 938. These forms must be submitted to the Travel Section for payment within 5 days after completion of travel.



## The Combined Federal Campaign

**OCT 16 - NOV 16**

It's that time of year again for the Combined Federal Campaign. It is running from Oct 16 to Nov 16.

The Combined Federal Campaign is the federal government's on-the-job fund-raising drive. It is like a "United Way" drive for federal workers, though it includes a much broader range of charities than do most United Way campaigns.

Since the early 1980s, the "CFC" has allowed a very broad range of national and local charities to

receive designated gifts.

However, while many charities are now eligible they still constitute only about one half of one percent of all organizations that the Internal Revenue Service allows to receive tax-deductible contributions.

For more information or to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign please contact your group or squadron representative.

# NEWS

## DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT YOUR VISA

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — DoD travelers won't be saying, "Don't leave home without it," when they leave on defense business after Nov. 30. NationsBank and the Visa network take over Dec. 1. Travis members can expect their Visa cards to arrive in the mail by December.

"Visa is accepted by more than 15 million merchants around the world. That's triple what DoD travelers had in the past," said Paul Bazylak, Visa's vice president for government services.

"They can use their Visa card at more than 440,000 automatic teller machines worldwide. They can use Visa in every country across the planet." NationsBank determines the services offered government cardholders; Visa provides the network for usage, Bazylak noted.

"The government-sponsored card will be the payment vehicle used by DoD personnel to pay for all official travel costs, including travel advances, lodging, transportation, rental cars, meals and other expenses," said Scott Collary, NationsBank senior vice president of government and commercial card products.

NationsBank won the bidding war over three other competitors. "DoD selected NationsBank along with the Visa network as the best value to the government in providing travel card services," said Army Brig. Gen. Roger Searce, deputy director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. DoD cardholders will be able to access and review their accounts via the World Wide Web, he noted.

"If you're delinquent when the American Express contract ends — that is, you haven't paid your bill in 60 days or more — Visa will run a credit check on you. Credit checks will be run on all new applicants," said Searce.

Being denied a credit card doesn't mean personnel can't travel on defense business, he said. The government's options include issuing travelers checks or a restricted travel card that can be "turned on" for a specific temporary duty trip.

"Misuse is always a concern," he said. "Unfortunately, people used the American Express government card for purposes other than official business." To help reduce misuse, DoD asked NationsBank to turn off blocks like 900 numbers, toy stores and other things.

DoD will even pay credit card bills for travelers, Searce said. "If you say, 'Of this \$1,000 trip, I charged \$800,' we'll peel that off and send it in for you and give you the difference. That's a convenience you just can't beat."

For more information, please contact your orderly room.



## AIR FORCE SEEKS RESERVE COPS FOR ACTIVE DUTY

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** — Facing a decline in its enlisted security forces retention rates, the Air Force is hoping to offset this shortfall by signing up reservists for extended active-duty tours of 12 to 15 months.

The Air Force is seeking Air Force Reserve Command security forces members in grades E-2 through E-6, as well as a limited number of E-7s, for active-duty service.

To qualify for an assignment, applicants must:

- \* Hold a secret clearance;
- \* Complete a physical examination;
- \* Possess or have possessed the needed specialty;
- \* Be recommended by their commander; and
- \* Meet retainability requirements to complete a 12- to 15-month tour of duty.

Reservists can apply for five stateside locations and can request overseas duty.

During the tour, they cannot reach 18 years total active federal military service (sanctuary). Applicants are also disqualified if they have an unfavorable information file, are on the weight management program, or, while on active duty, accepted a Voluntary Separation Incentive or Special Separation Benefit.

For more information please contact the Military Personnel Flight at (707) 424-3550. (AFRC News Service)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WEB SITE POLICY PLEASE REFER TO THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES:

Call the 349th Public Affairs Office at (707) 424-3936 or refer to the following web sites:

<http://websecurity.afis.osd.mil>

<http://www.af.mil/webpolicy>

<http://www.defenselink.mil>



## SOME ENLISTED AIRCREW MEMBERS GET GRADE ENHANCEMENT



**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – Enlisted aircrew members will receive a boost starting with the Nov. 1 promotion cycle when Air Force Reserve Command implements grade enhancements for about 3,500 people in the operational career field.

Reservists getting grade increases are in-flight refuelers, flight engineers, loadmasters, weather forecasters, and pararescuers. The move, according to headquarters officials here, will better reflect the grade structure commensurate with duties and responsibilities associated with these positions.

Chief Master Sgt. Geraldo “Chewy” Villagomez, current operations superintendent at Headquarters AFRC, compared rank structure between various weapon systems and concluded the more rank the better for retention.

Questionnaires were sent to Reserve aircrew members asking them to tell what they considered to be the number one cause for people opting to leave the operations career field. Overwhelmingly, replies received cited the lack of rank as the cause of poor retention.

“It was the greatest factor identified,” said Villagomez. “These grade increases represent a very positive achievement for our enlisted aircrews. It’s not about the money, but a sense of accomplishment, pride and respect from your peers.”

To ensure the command maximizes the benefits of the enhanced grades and to preserve continuation of career progression opportunities in the future, commanders have been tasked to level personnel to alleviate overgrade before members are assigned to the enhanced positions.

In essence, commanders will move people in overgrade positions to the new unit manning document positions before promoting a non-overgrade unit member.

Anyone receiving a grade increase and meeting all eligibility criteria as a result of the grade enhancement may be promoted starting with the Nov. 1 promotion cycle and may be promoted incrementally every other month thereafter.

Headquarters officials are planning to look next at the logistics community for possible grade enhancements.

For more information, unit reservists should contact their military personnel flight. (AFRC News Service)

## HAMRE ORDERS DoD WEB SECURITY REVIEW

**WASHINGTON** — Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre directed a security review Sept. 24 to ensure information on publicly accessible DoD Internet sites does not compromise national security or place personnel at risk.

“The Internet World Wide Web provides the department with a powerful tool to convey information quickly and efficiently on a broad range of topics,” Hamre said in a memorandum sent department wide. “At the same time, ...” he added, “such information, especially when combined with information from other sources, increases the vulnerability of DoD systems and may endanger DoD personnel and their families.”

Hamre said he was concerned about the possibility of personal and private information being posted to publicly accessible Web sites, such as service members’ Social Security numbers or home addresses.

The department uses the Internet in a variety of ways, including contract administration, finance, electronic commerce and news reporting. The activities won’t change, he said, but more attention will be given to the security implications of Web technology. “Security and efficiency can be achieved at the same time,” he said.

Hamre’s order for the review includes the creation of a task force to develop policy and procedures addressing operational, public affairs, acquisition, technology, privacy, legal and security issues associated with the use of DoD Web sites. The group’s preliminary guidance should be issued to the field by late November, he said.

Pending the task force guidance, and provided that essential missions are unaffected, all DoD organizations have 60 days to remove from their public Web sites: plans or lessons learned that would reveal sensitive military operations, exercises or vulnerabilities; information on sensitive troop movements; personal data such as Social Security numbers, birth dates, home addresses and home phone numbers; and any other identifying information about family members of DoD employees and military personnel.

The Hamre order directs all DoD components to conduct a comprehensive security assessment of all their Web sites within three months of receiving the task force guidance, and conduct annual reassessments thereafter.

For more information and discussion about department Web security issues, visit DoD’s home page at <http://www.defenselink.mil> and its special, Web security pages at <http://websecurity.afis.osd.mil> or call the 349th Public Affairs Office at (707) 424-3936.

# PEP S P r o m o t i o n s

**EFFECTIVE  
OCTOBER 1, 1998**



## *Master Sergeant*

Guiseppe Abbate, 349<sup>th</sup> LG  
Elizabeth A. Bradford, 301<sup>st</sup> AS  
Donald A. Gibson, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Eddie O. Ojeda, 301<sup>st</sup> AS  
Steven J. Robison, 301<sup>st</sup> AS  
Jerome Stockton, 749<sup>th</sup> AGS  
David Telles, 301<sup>st</sup> AS

## *Technical Sergeant*

John P. Abel, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Antonio R. Briseno, 70<sup>th</sup> ARS  
Lawrence T. Cantrell, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Boyde W.C. Crawford, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Althea A. Hines, 55<sup>th</sup> APS  
Stanley John, 82<sup>nd</sup> APS  
Baron M. Johnson, 82<sup>nd</sup> APS  
James G. Kladde, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Georg C. Korsak, 312<sup>th</sup> AS  
Thomas P. McKay, 349<sup>th</sup> AGS  
Algene L.G. Osby, 301<sup>st</sup> AS  
Jeffery E. Quinn, 349<sup>th</sup> EMS  
John D. Willoughby II, 301<sup>st</sup> AS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
349TH AIR MOBILITY WING PA  
520 WALDRON STREET  
TRAVIS AFB CA 94535-2171  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
HAYWARD, CA  
PERMIT NO. 3335



"CONTACT" magazine is printed for reservists like Technical Sgt. James R. Coleman III, flight chief, 349<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron.

Photo by Senior Airman Robin Jackson